



HAYES[®]

R A N C H



MERLOT

VINTAGE: 2012

APPELLATION: CALIFORNIA

ALCOHOL: 13.0%

THIS MERLOT COMES FROM SELECT VINEYARDS IN CALIFORNIA WITH WARM DAYS AND COOL NIGHTS. THESE VINEYARDS ARE CHARACTERIZED BY A LONG GROWING SEASON WHICH HELPS DEVELOP RIPE AND ROUND FRUIT FLAVORS. EACH VINEYARD WAS HARVESTED AND FERMENTED SEPARATELY IN UPRIGHT STAINLESS STEEL FERMENTERS. RACK AND RETURN, WHICH IS THE PROCESS OF DRAINING ALL OF THE FREE-RUN JUICE OFF THE CAP AND THEN RETURNING THE FREE-RUN JUICE BACK OVER THE TOP OF THE FERMENTER, WAS PERFORMED TWICE DAILY. THIS MERLOT WAS AGED FOR 12 MONTHS IN AMERICAN, FRENCH, EASTERN EUROPEAN, AND NEUTRAL OAK.

OUR MERLOT FEATURES AROMAS AND FLAVORS OF BLACK CHERRY, BLACKBERRY AND PLUM WITH A SMOOTH MOUTHFEEL THAT LEADS TO A LONG, FRUITY FINISH.

The Hayes Family was a true California ranching family whose livelihood depended on the land. The Wente Family Estates winemaking team carries on the Hayes family tradition by crafting bright, delicious wines from premier California vineyards.